

## New York News Letter

NEW YORK, Aug. 19.—Hemmed in by hordes of persistent mosquitoes that have sprung up in a night, this city is to-day at its wits end to escape this last plague of its most pestilential summer in many years. No human agency seems of avail against these humming pests that fill every square foot of space in sun or shadow the island over. The cloud of buzzing, biting insects envelopes every living thing from Battery to Bronx and life in the summer metropolis is becoming intolerable. On the heels of the deadliest drought and fiercest hot spell in 40 years, this latest plague has followed by record fly swarms and the unprecedented ravages of a host of white moths. Malaria and mad dogs are rife, and the burden of the scorching, harassing summer has already fallen heavily on the health and spirits of all New Yorkers. Politics are yet to come; and altogether the summer of 1908 promises much to try the temper.

With bunting being unfurled by the mile and everyone on edge to do great honor, the homecoming of the winners in the Olympiad promises to-day to be the greatest celebration of the summer here. Each schoolboy athlete, collegian and sportsman is working with might and main to make memorable the reception of the American victors. The city authorities are taking up the plans for official ceremonies with a rush of enthusiasm, while business men, bankers, laborers, lawyers and leaders in every walk of life are enlisting in the welcoming army. Seldom has Gotham been so stirred over any event of sporting interest as it is to-day, while the twisters of the Lion's tail are turning homeward from British soil. From swift ships, automobile racers, airship trials and thoroughbred gallops the public interest is turning again to the simple tests of human wind, limb, courage and endurance. Already the effect of this revival of track sports and athletics is showing in the swelling chests and muscles of an army of school boys, and everyone is ready to hail the change.

For the first time since the trial of the careless chauffeur made Central Park a stench in the nostrils of all New York an ordinance will to-day go into effect against the nuisance. Let one

single noxious odor escape a flying exhaust and arrest is promised by the police stationed on every curve of the crowded drives. The sense of speed has been gradually acquired by the bluecoat guardians of the park, but now their sense of smell must be vigilantly employed against the ceaseless procession of whirling motors. That ordinary care may save the auto muffler from becoming a horror to the nose of the crowd on foot is proclaimed a fact by the officials. Within this public playground at least, they propose to see that the machines that overrun the island are kept within the bounds of decency as well as safety.

Intent on every twist and puff of the navigable heavens, the aeronautic enthusiasts of this city are today on tip-toe over the flights of their imported sky-pilot, Henry Farman. For years these flying-machine cranks have confined their activities to manning the arm-chairs of their clubs and generating enough verbal hot air to fill many a mountain-sized balloon. Today, however, they have promised to provide the public with a real try at air-sailing. In the striking little person of the aeronaut's young wife the people are finding an interest perhaps more general than that which the new motion has yet called forth. Mrs. Farman is acting as secretary, manager and professional coach to hold her husband and she has even promised to sail aloft before she leaves this city. Stock in the proposed airship line to Boston will rise and fall as the fortunes of Farman fluctuate.

Full in the view of half of the downtown district a score of bridge-building acrobats are today starting to man the laying of the new Manhattan bridge. Over the flimsy footpaths which have just finished weaving hundreds of feet above the river, these human flies run and wriggle while all East Side New York watches with breathless fascination. To see a flying thunder storm reach and catch these specks of men in space is worth more than any circus "thriller." It will be years before the people of the town may follow over the river where the daring workers are making way; but the spectacle of their daily labors will be remembered for many years more.

### BERLIN BEER HALLS.

Where One Must Display Great Formality and Precision.

Berlin is organized for eating and drinking, and so are the Berliners organized for it. Scattered all over the city are enormous places where food is served, wine halls where only wines are served and beer halls which deal in beer alone, some of them most respectable and some not so impeccable. It is the rule that it is perfectly proper to take your mother or your wife or your sister to a beer hall or a wine hall that is frequented by the officers of the army. They go only to the proper ones—publicly.

The etiquette of these places is most formal. If the hall is crowded and tables are scarce, before you sit down you draw your heels together and make a military bow to everybody sitting at the table you select; then also you raise your glass or stein to those at the table when your refreshment is served. On leaving you bow all around again or the other people at the table bow if they leave before you do. The American way of asking the others at the table for permission to sit down is not ceremonious enough for the Germans who are the most formally polite people in the world.—Samuel G. Blythe in Everybody's Magazine.

### A FAMILY MIX.

The Story as It Is Recorded on the Tombstones.

In the early part of the last century there lived in an old New England town a Mr. Church, who, in the course of his pilgrimage through this vale of tears, was bereft of four wives, all of whom were buried in the same lot. In his old age it became necessary to remove the bodies to a new cemetery. This melancholy task the much bereaved widower undertook himself, but in the process the bones of the lamented quartet became hopelessly mixed. Priding himself on possession of a New England conscience, Mr. Church would not, under the painful circumstances, permit the use of the original headstones, but procured new ones, one of which bore the following inscription: "Here lies Hannah Church and probably a portion of Emily." Another: "Sacred to the memory of Emily Church, who seems to be mixed with Matilda." Then followed these lines:

Stranger, pause and drop a tear,  
For Emily Church lies buried here,  
Mixed in some perplexing manner  
With Mary, Matilda and probably Hannah.  
—Philadelphia Ledger.

The Star Arcturus.  
It is probable that the star Arcturus is one of the six greatest of all the stars in the sky. Notwithstanding its brightness, it is so far away from us

that it is not displaced in position in the slightest measurable degree, as we change our position 186,000,000 miles in our annual journey around the sun. Could we be placed midway between Arcturus and our sun we would receive thousands of times more light and heat from the star than from our sun, and this notwithstanding that the star's radiation is smothered by a dense blanket of metallic vapors. In spite of its immense distance the star is drifting slowly in a southwestward direction over the face of the sky, its motion changing its apparent position by an amount equal to the diameter of the moon in the course of about 1,000 years. So great an apparent motion must indicate an enormous velocity in space.—New York Press.

**Peppermint and Tobacco.**  
If you have a boy who has begun smoking too early and whom you wish to cure of the habit, feed him peppermints. Dr. O. Clayton Jones of Silverton, England, writing in the London Lancet, is authority for this simple cure. Dr. Jones writes: "To break the smoking habit in a youth there is nothing better than peppermint drops. He cannot smoke with a 'bullseye' in his mouth, and even for some time after it is dissolved tobacco will not blend kindly with the taste that remains. Socially the cure may seem worse than the disease, but from a medical point of view the sucking of peppermints is far less hurtful. A common 'bullseye' will prevent smoking for nearly an hour, so the amount of sweets used need not be great."

**His Discharge.**  
A touching instance of the humor which never deserts a true Irishman even in his worst troubles is recorded. A soldier was seen in the trenches holding his hands above the earthworks. His captain asked: "What are you doing that for, Pat?" He replied, with a grin, as he worked his fingers: "I'm feeling for a furlough, sir." Just then a rifle ball struck his arm just below the wrist. Then a queer expression of pain and horror passed over his face as he exclaimed: "And faith it's a discharge."—London Answers.

**So There Is.**  
"I didn't know you intended to move."  
"We don't."  
"But your wife told me she was out looking at houses all day yesterday."  
"Well, that's true enough, out don't you know there is a vast difference between looking at houses and looking for houses?"

**Not Very Consoling.**  
Humorist—The editor makes fun of my jokes. Spacer—Well, I don't see

that you have any kick coming. That's more than you are able to do.—Chicago News.

He that blows upon dust fills his eyes with it.—Danish Proverb.

### She Likes Good Things.

Mrs. Charles E. Smith, of West Franklin, Maine, says: "I like good things and have adopted Dr. King's New Life Pills as our family laxative medicine, because they are good and do their work without making a fuss about it." These painless purifiers sold at Charles Rogers & Son's drug store. 25c.

### Personal Identification Cards.

The woman who was arrested and detained on the New York Central upon the vague suspicion that she might be the Laporte murderess was fortunate in being able to establish her identity without tedious delay. For one thing, she had a traveling companion, making it necessary for the police who made the arrest to dispute two stories. Alone she might have fared worse. The incident shows that it is wise for people traveling far from home to carry upon their persons some form of identification papers. It is a simple matter, but may turn out to be most important. Accident insurance companies provide their patrons with such a card under the belief that in case of injury the insured may be alone and identification a subject of mystery to strangers.

The revelations of the Laporte case also show that means of personal identification are always a good thing. Missing men and women by the hundreds are unaccounted for in this country, and the friends of the missing ones are in doubt in some cases as to whether the farm victims may not include the objects of their search. Some of the missing ones may choose to hide their identity, others may be dead and still others, bereft of reason, detained in public institutions. Under a variety of happenings swift and sure means of identification may serve a good turn, and every long distance traveler can easily provide for it in advance.

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### BIDS FOR WOOD.

BIDS ARE HEREBY ASKED FOR furnishing 60 cords of sound fir slabwood, four feet in length; said wood to be delivered on the court house block within 10 days from date of signing contract; said bids to be filed with the clerk on or before August 24th, at 9 o'clock a. m., 1908; contractor to furnish bond in the sum of one hundred (\$100) dollars. Court reserving right to reject any or all bids. By order of the County Court, J. C. Clinton, County Clerk. 8-18-08

### MISCELLANEOUS.

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**Golden West**  
**Tea**  
Just Right

CLOSSET & DEVERS,  
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**MEN AND WOMEN.**  
Use Big G for unnatural discharges, inflammation, irritations or ulcerations of mucous membrane. Painless, and not astrigent or purgative. Sold by Druggists, or sent in plain wrapper by express, prepaid, for \$1.00 or 2 bottles \$2.75. Circular sent on request.

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

### HELP WANTED.

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A RESPECTABLE MAN looking for a clean, quiet home will find a room at 65 Astor street, new house between Second and Third Sts. 19-2t

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FOUND—GOLD WATCH, CHAIN and locket; owner can have same by thoroughly identifying property and paying for this notice. Inquire Astorian. 8-18-08

LOST—ON THE LEWIS AND Clark road on Sunday, August 16, a fishing outfit; a suitable reward will be given. Finder please return to the Astorian. 8-18-08

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MAGAZINE BINDING OF ALL kinds done at the Astorian Office.

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### BIDS REQUESTED.

FOR FURNISHING AND FILLING not less than 5000 cubic yards of earth in James street on the north side of Reservoir No. 2 and placing proper drainage at bottom of fill and also laying the steel culvert from overflow of reservoir as directed by the engineer in charge. Bids to be filed with clerk of commission not later than 5 p. m., August 21st, and to state time of completion; right reserved to reject any and all bids. City Water Commission, by G. W. Lounsbury, Clerk.

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City Attorney Offices: City Hall

#### JOHN C. McCUE,

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Page Building, Suite 4

#### HOWARD M. BROWNELL

Attorney-at-Law  
Deputy District Attorney  
420 Commercial Street

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573 Commercial St., Astoria, Ore.

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Pythian Building, Astoria, Oregon

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